## Adult-and-Child Shared Reading Adult-child shared reading experiences provide

rich opportunities for mutually beneficial teacher and child interactions. When teachers spend time reading with young children to encourage their active participation, they help children strengthen their listening skills, develop their language abilities, and increase their knowledge about the world. **Learning Guide: Reading** 

## Observe children in their everyday classroom activities to identify their interests; that is, the objects, materials, actions, and people

**Together with Young Children** 

- that they prefer, make them smile and laugh, activities they work hard at doing, and the things that capture their attention. Provide children access to books that match their interests. Give them opportunities to select a favorite book or choose among two or
- more books. Respond promptly to children's requests for you to read to them. Acknowledge their interests in wanting to read by making a
- showing your shared enthusiasm for reading, or praising them for their interest. When a book is familiar to a child, ask the child to tell you about the story. Help the child describe the story before beginning a reading episode. Have a child hold the book and turn the pages

as you read the story. Name or describe the objects and actions shown in the illustrations.

positive statement about a chosen book,

Stop frequently to encourage the child to make comments or ask questions about the story and illustrations. Respond positively to child comments and remarks by repeating what the child says, relating an event in the book to the child's experience. Ask the children open-ended questions about the story and illustrations, such as "What is he doing? Where is she going?" Help the children understand the story by providing information such as the meaning of unfamiliar words or

descriptions of events not in the children's own

experiences.

As the children become familiar with a story, engage them in reciprocal conversations by asking guestions that encourage them to make predictions (e.g., "What is going to happen next?"), explain the events that happen in the story (e.g., "Why do you think he did that?"), speculate about an alternate story line (e.g., "What do you think would have happened if she had not gone there?"), or relate the elements of the story to their own lives (e.g.,

"Have you ever been to a place like that?").

Keep the interactions going by repeating

what the children say or responding to the children's answers with positive comments, new vocabulary or informaiton, or questions that show your interest. Continue to provide many opportunities for children to participate in shared reading. Watch a video of this Learning Guide

You'll know the practice is working if ...

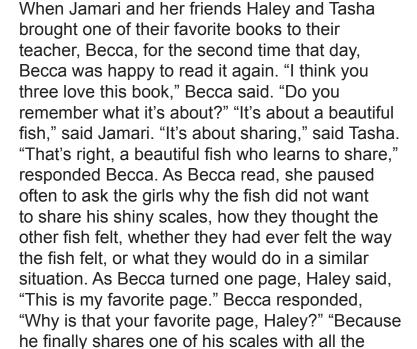
Children actively participate in and enjoy

Children make comments about and ask questions during reading experiences. Children use new vocabulary and more

complex language during reading experiences.

reading opportunities with you.

A Quick Peek



now that he shared?" Smiling, the girls answered in unison, "They're friends!!" "You're right!" said Becca. "The other fish ask him to play." The girls were delighted and settled on the couch together to retell the story to one another. Additional ideas about interaction through shared reading:

fish. They all look pretty now," said Haley. Becca asked, "What do you think is going to happen

"Shared Reading," a WW Intervention Report from What Works Clearinghouse "Engaging Young Readers with Text Through Shared Book Reading" available through Digital Commons